

PATENT

bey Docket No.: VRTY-001/00US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: LATARCHE et al.

Examiner: THAI, Hanh B. RECEIVED Application No.: 09/851,640

Confirmation No.: 3606

Art Unit: 2171

DEC 0 5 2003

Filed: May 8, 2001

RESPONSE

Technology Center 2100

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PARAMETRIC GROUP PROCESSING For:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Applicants hereby respond to the Official Action dated July 30, 2003 as follows.

Amendments to the claims, if any, are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.